

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 089548

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 089548

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, TGEN, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR AGREEMENT ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION: WINTER
WHEAT AND FEED GRAIN TEAM

1. PROPOSED DATES AS AGREED IN 1975 WORKPLAN, JUNE 16-JULY 5.
2. PURPOSE: STUDY OF ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE PRODUCTION OF
WINTER WHEAT AND FEED GRAINS. TEAM MEMBERS TO CONCENTRATE
ON VIEWING CURRENT WINTER GRAIN CROPS IN GROWING STAGES AND
DISCUSSIONS WITH PRODUCERS AND OTHER QUALIFIED PERSONS IN ORDER
TO ASSESS LIKELIHOOD OF NORMAL HARVEST OUTTURNS.
3. TEAM MEMBERS:
 - A. OWEN WIRAK, EXTENSION GRAIN MARKETING ECONOMIST, WASHINGTON
STATE UNIVERSITY, PULLMAN, WASHINGTON--TEAM LEADER.
 - B. JACK L. ASCHWEGE, CHIEF OF CROPS BRANCH, ESTIMATES DIVISION,
SRS, USDA.
 - C. WEYLAND BEEGHLY, ECONOMIST, GRAIN DIVISION, FCA, FAS,
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PAGE 02 STATE 089548

USDA.

4. FOLLOWING ARE AREAS TEAM WISHES TO VISIT:

NORTH CAUCASUS-- REGION EAST OF STAVROPOL
LOWER VOLGA-- VOLGOGRAD AREA
EASTERN UKRAINE-- -ARD
WEST OF VOROSHILOVGRAD
CENTRAL UKRAINE-- AREA WEST OF KIROVAGRAD OR WEST OF CHERKASK

5. SINCE THE PRIMRAY PURPOSE OF THIS TRIP IS TO VIEW PRE-VAILING CONDITIONS OF WINTER GRAIN CROPS, ESPECIALLY WINTER WHEAT, IN THE UKRAINE, THE NORTH CAUCASUS AND THE LOWER VOLGA AREAS, IT IS REQUESTED THAT TRAVEL BETWEEN CITIES BE MADE EITHER BY AUTOMOBILE OR TRAIN DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS. FARMS TO BE VISITED SHOULD BE REPRESENTATIVE OF VARIOUS AREAS OF THE OBLASTS AND KRAYS SO THAT THE TEAM MEMBERS CAN SEE GRAIN CONDITIONS OVER THE LARGEST AREA POSSIBLE. MOST OF THE TIME IN EACH AREA SHOULD BE SPENT IN LOCAL TRAVEL AND FARM VISITS (BOTH TO COLLECTIVE AND STATE FARMS); OFFICE-TYPE VISITS, WHICH SHOULD BE BRIEF AND RELATIVELY FEW, SHOULD MAINLY CONSIST OF VISITS WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH THE ESTIMATION AND REPORTING OF CROP PRODUCTION AND USAGE, BUT COULD ALST INCLUDE VISITS TO RESEARCH INSTITUTES OR OBLAST AGRICULTURAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICALS.

6. WHEN DISCUSSING ITINERARY WITH SOVIET SECRETARIAT, PLEASE STRESS THAT THE SUCCESS OF THE TEAM'S VISIT REQUIRES TRAVEL BY CAR AND TRAIN DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS, WITH MAJORITY OF TIME SPENT EITHER ON FARMS OR IN SURFACE TRAVEL THROUGH GRAIN PRODUCING AREAS.
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